

**ABSTRACT**

A tethering system according to the present invention  
5 comprises a housing having front and back surfaces and a  
tether internal to the housing. A spring is also internal  
to the housing and arranged to allow the tether to be  
extended from the tether housing against the force of the  
spring, with the spring urging the tether to retract into  
10 the housing. A mounting apparatus is included on the back  
surface of the tether housing and is arranged to mount the  
tether housing to a person. A holstering system is included  
on the front surface of the tether housing and arranged to  
allow a personal device to be mounted to the tether housing  
15 with the tether attached to the personal device. The tether  
is extendable to allow use of the personal device by the  
person. The spring and tether also preventing the personal  
device from falling to the ground.